

C. 4418 (1)

BOROUGH OF



RYDE, I.W.

21 DEC 1961

THE 82nd  
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1960

including the separate Report of the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1960  
(as constituted at 26th May 1960)

The Mayor—Councillor E. H. Castle

Councillor Ramage ( <i>Chairman</i> )	Councillor Bourn
Councillor Lewer ( <i>Vice-Chairman</i> )	Councillor Burridge
Alderman Evans	Councillor Cleaver
Alderman Matthews	Councillor Colledge
Alderman Russell	Councillor Read
Councillor Baxter	Councillor Sutton

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS, 1960

JOHN D. RUSSELL\* M.B., B.S. (Syd.), D.P.H. (Lond.) (Office—  
County Hall, Newport. Tel. Newport 2261).

35% Borough of Ryde, Sandown-Shanklin and Ventnor  
U.D.C.'s. (Combined population 39,450).

65% Senior Medical Officer, Isle of Wight County Council.

*Senior Public Health Inspector* S. DUNMORE,

M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

*Additional Public Health Inspector* L. N. JORDAN,

M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

*Clerk* Miss D. G. BOYCE

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\**Part time Officer*



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
MUNICIPAL OFFICES,  
5 LIND STREET,  
RYDE, I.W.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,  
Ryde Borough Council*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances for the year 1960, in accordance with the direction of the Minister of Health.

## **STATISTICS**

### **General**

The year 1960 was the wettest on record, spoiling the summer season. The October rainfall was more than twice the average with resultant flooding, which contaminated the water supplies and caused extensive damage.

### **Vital**

The number of live births (279), the highest figure for over 10 years, was 36 more than last year, when the lowest figure for the same period was recorded. In spite of this, our birth rate was still below that for England and Wales.

The number of deaths has varied little over a decade.

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age fell from 5 last year to 3, giving a rate less than half that for England and Wales as a whole.

### **Causes of Death**

The national increase in the number of deaths due to coronary heart disease and cancer of the lung continued this year. Locally, the number of deaths due to coronary artery disease was 11 more than last year and for cancer of the lung, the same as last year.



There were 11 deaths by accident, which is a very high figure on a population basis. In England and Wales, deaths from accidents involving motor vehicles numbered 6,641 and there were 7,028 deaths from accidents in the home. Such deaths are a wanton waste of human life as most can and should be prevented.

It must be faced that the not inconsiderable efforts at prevention made by national and local bodies have failed.

Surely the time has come for legislation involving stiffer penalties for traffic contraventions and for prescribing standards of safety both in the home and for manufactured goods used in the home.

Traffic accidents would in my opinion, be reduced to minimal numbers if supervision was more comprehensive. I've never seen a motorist drive anything but carefully, when he knew the police were watching. A large force of "traffic wardens" would be needed and the cost of their wages weighed against the cost of road accidents would result in an enormous financial saving, quite apart from the saving of untold misery and suffering. This force would also free the police for duties for which they have been specially trained.

Deaths from respiratory tuberculosis continue to be few, and there were only two registered.

There were no deaths from influenza and, indeed, deaths from this disease registered in the country during the whole of 1960 totalled 1,098, the lowest number this century.

No deaths were attributable to infectious diseases, a fact which emphasises the changing epidemiological pattern. When the first Medical Officer of Health was appointed, at Liverpool in 1847, his work was, of necessity, concerned with environmental health services, especially the control of infectious diseases. Today the field of preventive medicine is dominated by mental, constitutional and developmental health.

I am pleased to report there was no maternal death.



## **Prevalence and Control of Infectious and other Diseases**

Again this year a non specific disease, which is not notifiable, has attracted most interest. It was a cervical adenitis with pain and tenderness, a stiff neck and raised temperature lasting from a few days to a week and affecting children and adults.

Pathological examination of specimens failed to reveal the causal organism and a poor response to antibiotics was evident. In one case, suppuration occurred.

There were only 61 cases of the common infectious diseases of childhood.

A Mass Radiography Unit visited the Island in June and July and again in October. The results, published elsewhere, clearly indicate the value of this service to the community.

Seventeen new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, including 6 transfers from the mainland, were notified.

The Chest Physician, the County Medical Officer and the District Medical Officers held a meeting on tuberculosis services at the Royal National Hospital, Ventnor in June and October.

There is no doubt at all now that vaccination against poliomyelitis is effectively preventing the disease and no cases were notified for the third successive year.

A poliomyelitis vaccination campaign was held in the late Spring and the percentage of children and young persons up to the age of 18 years, who were vaccinated by the end of the year, was 92.8%.

Late in 1960 Saunders Roe and Nuclear Enterprises Ltd. set up a laboratory for the purposes of research into the applications of radio isotopes in industry and possibly medicine at their Osborne Works at East Cowes. This work will be carried out and inspected under the supervision of the Radio Chemical Inspectorate of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Venereal disease, especially among teenagers, is on the increase and a cause of national concern. One indirect cause of this is the new wonder antibiotics, which by affecting rapid

cures and in some cases, alas, only seeming to affect a rapid cure, have lulled a certain section of community into a state of false security. It so often happens, the solving of one problem creates another. As a subject of Health Education, this disease is the most difficult of all to tackle. "Indestructible" notices of time and place for treatment supplied by the County Council were erected in public conveniences. However, that "indestructible" is only a relative term was made evident by another disturbing facet of our society, vandalism.

The Report on Sewage Contamination of Bathing Beaches by the Medical Research Council that no health hazard exists came as a surprise to many, including, I suspect, the Council itself.

It is true now that no Medical Officer of Health can advise his authority to treat sewage discharged into the sea, on Public Health grounds. However, grounds dictated by a strict code of good hygiene and cleanliness should be just as valid. I don't think anybody would deliberately bathe in sewage.

Although only one person was notified as suffering from food poisoning during the year, it must not be forgotten that this disease is a cause of national concern.

Good hygiene and cleanliness play an undisputed part in the prevention of contamination of food.

The Health Education concept "Wash your Hands" should by now be familiar to all but I do not think sufficient emphasis is laid upon hand drying. Many conscientiously wash their hands and then proceed to spoil it all by drying with a towel already used by other persons. I should like to see individual, sterile, towels, or hot air driers used throughout the catering industry.

I should also like to see the housewives pursue a militant Clean Food Campaign. The serving and displaying of food in shops leaves much to be desired. Assistants handle dirty paper money and coins and the food indiscriminately. They lick their fingers to get hold of paper money, grease proof paper, etc., or blow into bags to open them. A shop which does not conform to a high standard of cleanliness, should be boycotted by the housewife.



Eight clinical cases of Brucellosis, two of which were bacteriologically positive, were notified in August. The same producer/retailer supplied raw milk to all the cases. The milk contained the brucella organism as determined by biological test. Action was taken under Section 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959 requiring no milk be sold for human consumption or used in the manufacture of products for human consumption unless it has been treated, i.e. pasteurised or sterilised. Such an order is varied by further tests on individual milk samples and, previously unaffected animals contracting the disease and the farmer buying and selling cows.

Two further cases of human brucellosis were notified in November concerning the same producer/retailer and another. Section 20 was again invoked.

One appreciates the co-operation of the general practitioners and the hospital pathologist in view of the fact that brucellosis is not a notifiable disease.

Many of the public hold the mistaken belief that milk from T.T. herds cannot transmit disease. True, it does not transmit tuberculosis but it can, and as we've seen above it does, transmit other diseases.

### **Removal of Persons in Need of Care and Attention**

Although many cases were investigated, no action was taken this year under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1948.

### **Health Education**

Full and effective support was given to the Island wide campaigns for Poliomyelitis Immunization and Mass Radiography. 5 talks of health subjects were given during the year.

### **Conferences and Courses**

I attended two courses during the year. The first, in February, on Health Education was held by the Central Council for Health Education in London. The second, a week in October, was on Civil Defence at Sunningdale. Both I am glad to say, were thoroughly worthwhile.

### **New Legislation**

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, issued with Model Standards for Licence conditions, applies to caravan sites with certain specified exceptions. It allows greater control by Local and Town Planning Authorities and efforts are being made to reach uniformity throughout the Island.

The Noise Abatement Act 1960, makes noise or vibration, with certain specified exceptions, a statutory nuisance under the Public Health Act 1936. I look forward with interest to the number and type of legal actions taken and to the results thereof, having in mind the permissible defence.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, transfer from the Local Authority to the Food and Drugs Authority the issuing of dealers' licences, except for a few kinds granted by the Ministry. The Isle of Wight County Council, which is the Food & Drugs Authority, in issuing a licence, should be satisfied that the applicants' arrangements and processes for the production, handling, treatment, storage and distribution of milk, as the case may be, are such as to comply with all relevant provisions contained in any Milk and Dairies Regulations and Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, including the new regulations. In my opinion they should be satisfied only with a report by a qualified Public Health Inspector.

### **Staff**

There have been no changes during the year.

### **Acknowledgements**

Mr. Dunmore, the Senior Public Health Inspector, who has continued to run the department with a certain élan, I thank for his unstinted support and loyalty. Mr. Jordan, the Additional Public Health Inspector, also deserves my gratitude.

I am appreciative of the efforts of the clerks, Miss Boyce and Mr. Pierce.

I sincerely thank the Public Health Committee for their unflagging interest and strong support.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. D. RUSSELL

*Medical Officer of Health*



## STATISTICS

### (1) GENERAL

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	7,876
No. of inhabited houses according to rate books (as at 31/3/61)	...	...	...	...	...	7,202
Rateable value (as at 1/4/60)	...	...	...	...	...	£298,796
Sum represented by 1d. rate (1959/60)	...	...	...	...	...	£1,188
Rainfall	...	...	...	...	...	47·2 inches
Sunshine	...	...	...	...	...	1,603·7 hours

### (2) VITAL

Population (Registrar's Figure)	...	...	...	...	19,970
BIRTHS	M.	F.			
No. of live legitimate births	129	131	...	...	260
No. of live illegitimate births	3	16	...	...	19
Live birth rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	13·9
Comparative factor (births)	...	...	...	...	1·08
Comparative Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	15·0
Live Birth Rate England and Wales	...	...	...	...	17·1
Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	282
	M.	F.			
No. of legitimate stillbirths	1	2	...	...	3
No. of illegitimate stillbirths	—	—	...	...	Nil
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	10·6
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...	...	...	6·8
DEATHS	M.	F.			
Total number of deaths	136	164	...	...	300
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	15·0
Comparative factor (deaths)	...	...	...	...	0·76
Comparative death rate	...	...	...	...	11·4
Death rate England and Wales	...	...	...	...	11·5
No. of deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year of age	M.	F.			
	2	1	...	...	3
No. of deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year of age	—	—	...	...	Nil
Death rate all infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	10·8
Death rate legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	11·5
Death rate illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	Nil

Statistics—*Continued*

Infant Mortality Rate (England and Wales ...	21·9
Neo Natal Mortality Rate per 1000 live births	10·8
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate ... ..	10·8
Perinatal Mortality Rate ... ..	21·3
Maternal Deaths (including abortion) ... ..	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 live and still births ... ..	Nil

**CAUSES OF DEATH**

CAUSE	MALE		FEMALE	
Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	2	(1)	—	(—)
Tuberculosis, other ... ..	—	(—)	—	(—)
Syphilitic disease ... ..	—	(—)	—	(—)
Diphtheria ... ..	—	(—)	—	(—)
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	(—)	—	(—)
Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	(—)	—	(—)
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	(—)	—	(—)
Measles ... ..	—	(—)	—	(—)
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	(1)	—	(—)
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	—	(—)	5	(3)
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	7	(6)	—	(1)
Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	(—)	5	(6)
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	(—)	3	(4)
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	16	(10)	14	(14)
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	2	(1)	1	(—)
Diabetes ... ..	—	(1)	2	(—)
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	21	(18)	29	(33)
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	32	(26)	14	(9)
Hypertension with heart disease ...	3	(2)	8	(7)
Other heart disease ... ..	16	(24)	41	(49)
Other circulatory disease ... ..	3	(6)	8	(4)
Influenza ... ..	—	(1)	—	(1)
Pneumonia ... ..	3	(8)	5	(5)
Bronchitis ... ..	7	(7)	6	(2)
Other diseases of respiratory system	5	(1)	1	(—)
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	3	(1)	1	(—)
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	(—)	—	(3)
Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	1	(1)	2	(—)
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	2	(1)	—	(—)
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	(—)	—	(—)

Causes of Death—*Continued.*

Congenital malformations	...	...	1	(—)	—	(—)
Other defined and ill-defined diseases			6	(9)	13	(12)
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	2	(2)	—	(1)
All other accidents	...	...	3	(1)	6	(3)
Suicide	...	...	1	(4)	—	(3)
Homicide and operations of war	...	...	—	(—)	—	(—)
ALL CAUSES	...	...	...	136	(132)	164 (160)

N.B.—Figures for 1959 are entered in brackets.

## Prevalence of Infectious and other Diseases.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	18	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection...	2	1	—
Meningitis (Unspecified)...	1	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis (Infective) ...	—	—	—
Measles ...	38	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	5	—	—
Ophthalmia			
Neonatorum ...	1	—	—
Pneumonia ...	1	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	1	—	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) ...	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic) ...	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	11	2	—
Tuberculosis (Meninges & C.N.S.)	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (Other)	—	—	—
Totals ...	78	4	1



# Age at Date of Notification

Age	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Malaria	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Whooping Cough	Measles	Meningococcal Infection	Meningitis (Unspecified)	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Acute Encephalitis (Infective)	Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	Tuberculosis (Meninges & C.N.S.)	Tuberculosis (Other)	Paratyphoid fever
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Totals	18	—	—	—	1	—	5	38	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	11	—	—	—

**Food Poisoning Outbreaks**

Total number of outbreaks	...	...	...	...	1
Number of cases	...	...	...	...	1
Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	Nil

**Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases Return from  
Head Teachers of Schools**

Mumps	...	...	...	...	58
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	...	35
Influenza and Influenzal Colds					6
Measles	...	...	...	...	10
Whooping Cough			...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	13
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	1
German Measles			...	...	2
Shingles	...	...	...	...	1

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**Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Acts, 1944**

Number of samples taken during 1960	...	...	73
Number of samples found to be T.B. positive	...	...	Nil
Number of samples in which Brucella Abortus was isolated	...	...	9

**Tuberculosis, 1960**

AGE PERIODS				Totals	New Cases				Totals	Deaths			
					Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
					M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F
0 and under	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
1    "    "	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
5    "    "	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
10   "   "	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
15   "   "	20	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
20   "   "	25	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
25   "   "	35	4	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
35   "   "	45	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
45   "   "	55	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
55   "   "	65	4	4	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	
65   "   "	75	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
75 and over		1	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	
Total	...	*17	12	5	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	

\*This total includes 6 transfers from the Mainland. In addition, 2 patients on the Tuberculosis Register died from other causes.

**Table showing the number of new cases and deaths from Tuberculosis during the period 1950-1960.**

<i>New Cases</i>			<i>Deaths</i>			
	Pulm.	Non.-Pulm.	Total	Pulm.	Non.-Pulm.	Total
1950	... 17	9	26	4	1	5
1951	... 19	5	24	4	—	4
1952	... 13	15	28	2	1	3
1953	... 10	9	19	2	—	2
1954	... 16	2	18	3	—	3
1955	... 4	5	9	—	1	1
1956	... 6	2	8	2	—	2
1957	... 15	1	16	—	—	—
1958	... 11	1	12	2	—	2
1959	... 12	3	15	1	—	1
1960	... 17	—	17	2	—	2

### **Child Welfare Clinics**

<i>Name of Clinic</i>	<i>Place where held</i>	<i>How often held</i>
Ryde ...	Well Street	*Every Wednesday and Friday 2.30—4.30 p.m.
Binstead ...	The Institute	Every Tuesday, 2.30 p.m.
St. Helens ...	Lower Green Methodist Sunday School	Fourth Thursday, 2.30 p.m.
Seaview ...	Methodist Sunday School	First Monday, 2.30 p.m.

*\*Doctor in attendance*



### Factories Act, 1937.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1960, for the Borough of Ryde, in the County of the Isle of Wight.

#### Part I of the Act

1.—**Inspections** for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	5	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	103	42	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total ...	114	47	1	—

## 2. Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) ...	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	1	—	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	1	—	—	1	—

## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,  
Ryde Borough Council*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my eleventh Annual Report, which, as in past years, is presented by permission of the Medical Officer of Health as a separate part of his report.

In commenting briefly upon the details which are set out in my Report's four sections, I must again, in regard to Sanitary Circumstances (Section I), stress the urgent need to get the proposed sewerage scheme for the Fishbourne and Kitehill districts underway, and so eliminate the cesspool and septic tank problems in these developing districts. Need I remind you that this problem has been commented upon with increasing urgency in each of my previous ten reports?

Public cleansing, in relation to refuse collection and storage, has its problems, and, because of the rapidly increasing use of cardboard containers and paper, which causes increased bulk, the collecting capacity of the refuse vehicles has become overloaded. To cope with this, a new, large, compression-type vehicle has been ordered, and one of the existing large vehicles is to be converted to have a compression unit incorporated into. A "works study" is to be carried out with a view to reorganising the present domestic collection system. The Public Health Committee is also keeping under review the quite new system of paper bag storage for domestic refuse.

Caravans again came in for special attention when the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, came into force in August, and this is certain to necessitate much deliberation and negotiations before new licences are finalized.

Section II—Housing work operations have resulted in a busy year, especially as regards work involved with Discretionary Grants and Standard Grants. There has also been a steady amount of work arising from the Rent Act, 1957, but, as anticipated, this has been less than in the previous year. Slum clearance work, too, has progressed satisfactorily.

Section III—Food has received as much attention as time has allowed. Several complaints were received in the course



of the year concerning extraneous matters found in food. All of these referred to foods manufactured outside the Borough, and in each instance a full investigation was carried out and reported upon, at my request, by the Authority in whose district the food was prepared, and the explanations received were accepted by the Public Health Committee.

Section IV (Miscellaneous) is included to set out the several miscellaneous duties carried out by the Health Department which are not included in the Sanitary Officers' Regulations.

Where figures subsequently appear in brackets, they refer to the previous year.

Before turning to my Report in detail, may I again thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support and encouragement throughout the year, the Medical Officer of Health for his interest and help, and the Heads of Departments and their staffs for their co-operation. It is difficult to adequately express my thanks to Mr. Jordan, my Assistant, for all his work, so thoroughly carried out, and to Miss Boyce, who has to cope with the many, often monotonous office duties.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

STANLEY DUNMORE

*Senior Public Health Inspector*

## Section I—Sanitary Circumstances

### Complaints

327 (427) general complaints were received and dealt with during the year.

### Water Supply

A fully adequate supply of pure water was maintained throughout the year by the I.W. Water Board.

Sampling of the sources and supply mains for bacteriological examination has been carried out by the Board's Inspectors. 56 samples of raw water at the sources were examined, the results of which were:—11 unsatisfactory or suspicious and 45 satisfactory. Modern chlorination equipment is installed at the sources serving the Borough, and all of the 80 samples taken from various mains supply points were found to be satisfactory.

The reports of chemical analyses of two sources are as follows:—

Source of Sample	Knighton Chalk Well	Sandown Pumping Station
Date taken	3.5.61	30.11.59
Appearance	Clear and bright	Very faint opal- escence with a slight yellow- brown deposit
Odour	Nil	Nil
Reaction	pH 7.3	pH 7.2
	<i>Parts per million</i>	<i>Parts per million</i>
Total solid residue dried at 180°C	300	290
Suspended solids	Nil	Not measured. Colour 21 degrees Hazen
Ammoniacal nitrogen	0.01	0.000
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.01	0.043
Nitrate nitrogen	1.4	3.8
Nitrite nitrogen	0.01	Nil
Chlorine present as chloride	30	52

	<i>parts per million</i>	<i>parts per million</i>
Oxygen absorbed, 4 hrs. at 27°C	0.25	2.7 (30 mins. at 100°C)
Hardness		
Carbonate (temporary)	190	70
Non-carbonate (permanent)	35	95
Total	225	165
Metals; Lead, zinc, copper	Nil	Nil
Iron	Nil	0.52

The local supplies are not considered to be liable to plumbo-solvent action, and therefore no precautions have been taken.

The estimated population supplied from public mains is 19,970, and the number of dwellings likewise supplied from such mains is 7,202, all of which are directly supplied.

In October, serious flooding occurred, following almost four inches of rain in many parts of the Island, including some low-lying areas in the Borough. Fractures of sewers and drains resulted in the risk of pollution of the Board's mains supplies, and strict precautions, such as advising boiling of all water, were taken for a short period. However, samples taken locally following flooding, in the affected areas, were all satisfactory.

### **Drainage Matters**

The bulk of the Borough's foul drainage, and much of its surface water, is discharged, untreated, through long outfalls well beyond low-water mark, into the strong currents of the Solent flowing eastwards into the open sea. The purification plants serving Havenstreet and St. Helens districts have dealt satisfactorily with the sewage there. A sewerage scheme for the Kitehill and Fishbourne districts not yet served, has been prepared by the Council, and they are also considering schemes for full purification treatment of the bulk of the town's sewage. However, an essential preliminary to any such schemes will necessitate taking as much surface water as possible from the sewers, and the Borough Surveyor is now preparing extensive schemes for the separate disposal of surface water in several areas in the Borough.



All alterations or new drainage works involving existing buildings are supervised by the Health Department. 58 such works have been supervised, and these included six which necessitated action under Section 24, Public Health Act, 1936.

The Council's mechanical emptier dealt with septic tanks and cesspools in those areas in the Borough not served by a sewerage system.

### **Public Cleansing**

This service is operated by the Borough Surveyor. All districts in the Borough receive at least a once-weekly collection, and a trade refuse collection service is also provided.

An estimated total of 11,700 tons of refuse was collected and dumped at the Council's tip at Nettlestone. The tip has received regular treatments by the Rodent Officer for the destruction of rats, and, during the fly-breeding season, tip dressing insecticides have been regularly sprayed on exposed surfaces.

The value of salvageable materials amounted to £751 for waste paper and £93 for woollens and mixed metals. (These figures approximate to those of last year). The Council is operating a salvage incentive scheme for the collectors.

### **Infectious Disease**

Infectious disease has not, during the year, called for any comment, except that you will have read the Medical Officer's report concerning the cases of brucellosis which have occurred. Acting upon his instructions, I carried out the necessary enquiries and investigations, both as regards the infected persons and the milk producers involved.

### **Caravans and Camping**

No new caravan and camping sites have come into use during the year, and all of those which hold licences from the local authority have been maintained at a good standard of efficiency. Tentage campers, in particular, were not encouraged by the wet, and often cold, summer we had this year. Adequate liaison has continued with the County Planning Department in all matters concerning camping.

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, came into force on 29th August, as a result of which nine site owners submitted applications for licences, some of whom are requesting permission to increase the number of caravans on their sites. Consultations are now in progress with the County Planning Authority, the other Island local authorities, and other interested organisations, concerning various licensing aspects, including site standards, etc., which will be incorporated into the new site licences when issued in due course.

Annual licences issued by the Council comprised:—

Caravan and camping sites	...	...	...	6	(6)
Caravans for seasonal use (none licensed for residential use)	...	...	...	21	(18)

### Swimming Pools

There are no public swimming pools in the Borough—there are two privately-owned, open-air swimming pools at Warners' Puckpool and St. Clare Holiday Camps. Both pools have filtration and chlorination plants, which are efficiently supervised. Four samples were taken for bacteriological examination, and all were satisfactory.

### Vermin

(a) 45 (43) premises were treated to destroy insect vermin, and we have continued to use our now well-tried method of using liquid insecticides, followed up when necessary with residual smoke generators. Cockroaches have generally been dealt with by powders, applied by blower or hand sprinklers. Again, in the autumn a number of reports were received from householders concerning heavy fly infestations in roof-spaces and attics, and these were effectively dealt with, without charge, using insecticidal sprays. The commonest insects which had to be dealt with were fleas and cockroaches.

(b) The destruction of rats and mice is carried out by the I.W. (Rodents Destruction) Joint Committee, and complaints, totalling 118, received at my office were passed to their Rodent Officer for attention. His report of action taken during the year ended 31st December is as follows:—

Visits to:—

Council properties	...	...	...	...	25
Dwellinghouses (including Council Houses)					659
Agricultural premises	...	...	...		33
All other premises (including Business Premises)	...	...	...	...	246
Major infestations (rats) discovered			...	...	4
Minor infestations (rats) discovered			...	...	134
Minor infestations (mice) discovered			...	...	102

On the 31st March, 1961, the Joint Committee is to be disbanded. Acting upon this decision, the Ryde Council have decided that they will provide a rodent destruction service on similar lines to that now operating. Decisions have therefore been taken to ensure an unbroken continuance of the service, by arranging from the 1st April next to engage the Joint Committee's local rodent operative, and to purchase from them the necessary equipment which will become available as a result of the close-down. Property-owners who now have Contracts with the Joint Committee are being invited, when they renew, to do so with the Borough Council.

(c) The summer was not a conducive one for wasps. Nevertheless, 58 nests were destroyed, added to which two bees' nests had also to be dealt with.

### **Shops Act, 1950**

There were 447 (442) shops on the register at the end of the year, the majority of which are small premises, family-owned and operated. 181 (257) inspections were made, either of a routine nature or to investigate contraventions of the Act, give advice, and approve alterations.

### **Factories Act, 1937**

The Department's register showed that there were 103 (103) power factories and 11 (13) non-power factories operating in the Borough. The majority are small premises employing a few hands, but active efforts are underway, through the Council and others, to encourage light industries in particular to start up within the Borough. 47 inspections were carried out, at which one contravention was found.



### Summary of Inspections and Visits

Complaints ... ..	122
Public Health Act ... ..	147
Re-visits to Premises under Notice—Public Health Act ... ..	108
Interviews with Owners, Agents, Builders, etc. ...	478
Work in Progress ... ..	230
Insanitary Houses and Rooms ... ..	49
Verminous Premises or Rooms ... ..	63
National Assistance Act ... ..	13
Infectious Diseases ... ..	14
Drainage Inspections and Tests ... ..	320
Septic Tanks, Cesspools, etc. ... ..	14
Camping Sites, Caravans, Tents and Houseboats	43
Stables, Piggeries, Poultry, etc. ... ..	13
Factories, with Power ... ..	42
Factories, without Power ... ..	5
Outworkers' Rooms ... ..	1
Places of Entertainment, etc. ... ..	1
Shops Act ... ..	181
Schools ... ..	1
Foreshores, Streams, etc. ... ..	11
Vacant Land and Dumps ... ..	25
Common Yards and Passages ... ..	20
Swimming Pools ... ..	6
Smoke Nuisances ... ..	6
Rodent Infestations ... ..	3
Dangerous Structures ... ..	44
Noise Abatement Act ... ..	5
Miscellaneous Visits ... ..	128

### Nuisances Abated and Defects Remedied

Drains and Sec. 24, Public Health Act, 1936, Sewers Cleared of Obstructions ... ..	40
Drains Repaired, Reconstructed or Altered ...	43
Drains connected to sewers ... ..	2
Inspection Chambers Provided or Repaired ...	26
Cesspools Cleansed or Repaired ... ..	1
Disposal Plants Installed, Repaired or Cleansed	1
Offensive, etc., Accumulations Removed ...	6
Animals—Nuisances Abated ... ..	4
Dirty Premises Cleansed ... ..	3



Cellars, etc., Cleared after Flooding	... ..	2
Contraventions Remedied in Stables and Piggeries		2
Contraventions Remedied in Shops	... ..	2
Dangerous Structures Made Safe or Demolished		12

## Section II—Housing

The Council have, to date, constructed 598 houses for family occupation, comprising 194 two-bedroomed, 390 three-bedroomed, and 14 four-bedroomed houses. In addition, 32 flatlets and bed-sitting-rooms, and 28 flats and one-bedroomed bungalows have been built for old people.

At the end of the year there was a waiting list of 100 applicants for the family units, and for the time being they are only being absorbed through vacancies as they occur, since no new Council houses were built during 1960. Also, at the end of the year there were 50 applicants for old people's units, which is an increase over last year, because no new housing has been undertaken during the year for this age-group of the population. In this Borough, where the ageing population increases steadily, even rapidly, every year the problem of keeping pace with the demand for accommodation becomes ever more difficult, and the chances of many of the oldest applicants being successful in obtaining such a home before they are too old to enjoy it are indeed small, unless many more housing units for these people can be made available. It must be appreciated that it is not just a matter of building units, where old people are concerned—many special considerations have to be taken into account, especially as regards siting, so that they are reasonably accessible to shops and other essential amenities, and suitable sites are difficult to find.

The Council's five-year slum clearance programme had been completed by the end of last year. However, during this year further clearance was undertaken, and nine housing units were represented as being unfit for habitation; five were dwellinghouses and four were basement flats. As a result of action taken in last year's programme, two cottages on which an offer to carry out works had been accepted were closed, the owner having failed to carry out the required works to the Council's satisfaction; undertakings not to re-let in respect of two dwellinghouses were cancelled; the owners having restored them to a thoroughly fit state; and three cottages were demolished.

The momentum of private building has been maintained this year—41 new houses were constructed, eight dwellings were converted to provide seventeen units, and two buildings not previously used as dwellings were converted to provide three units.

During the year, the upward trend by local residents to own their own houses continued, as indicated by the fact that fifty-three Advances were made under the Council's S.D.A.A. scheme. In addition, six Repair Loans were advanced.

There has been continued interest shown by house-owners in the Government's Discretionary Grant scheme, and twenty-six grants were approved. The necessary inspections and reports called for are carried out jointly with the Borough Surveyor's Department.

Interest in the Standard Grants scheme has also increased, and fifteen (9) grants were approved. All inspections, reports, etc., regarding this scheme are carried out by the Health Department. I am, however, convinced that a great many local owners are still unaware of this scheme, which allows a generous grant of up to £150 to provide five essential amenities in the home, namely a bath, basin, hot water supply, W.C. and foodstore.

The Rent Act, 1957, work has reduced as anticipated during the year, but there has been a steady flow of applications by tenants and landlords. This work and the necessary reports to the Rent Act Sub-Committee has almost entirely been dealt with by Mr. Jordan. By the end of the year 100 applications had been dealt with since the Act came into operation.

A summary of the work done during the year is as follows:

#### **Applications for Certificates of Disrepair**

Number of applications for certificates ... ..	7
Number of decisions not to issue certificates ...	—
Number of decisions to issue certificates ... ..	6
Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule ... ..	2
Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedules ... ..	—
Number of certificates issued ... ..	4

### Applications for Cancellation of Certificates

Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	...	...	...	3
Objection by tenants to cancellation of certificates	...	...	...	1
Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objection	...	...	...	—
Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	...			4

### Application for Certificates as to Remedying Defects

Number of applications for certificates				
(a) from tenants	...	...	...	1
(b) from landlords	...	...	...	2
Number of certificates issued	...	...	...	3

All complaints relative to housing defects were investigated and, where substantiated, the necessary informal notice was served upon owner or agent. A friendly and co-operative relationship exists between the Department and the local agents, and this state also exists with the local builders and their employees, who carry out repair work, much of which often proves to be difficult and tricky. During this year it was only necessary to apply to the Public Health Committee for five (9) Formal Notices as a result of non-compliance with informal notices. Three of the Formal Notices referred to are proving extremely difficult to resolve, and it has been necessary to resort to Court action, where at the end of the year the problem rests.

### Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the Year

(1) (a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	375
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose				630

### Details of Inspections, Visits, etc.

Complaints	...	...	...	...	...	81
Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	...	110
Re-visits to Premises under Notice—Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	...	184
Housing Acts and Rent Acts	...	...	...	...	...	265



Re-visits to Premises under Notice—Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	71
Interviews with Owners, Agents, Builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	634
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	87

### **Nuisances Abated and Defects Remedied**

Chimneys and Stacks Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ceilings Repaired, Renewed or Provided	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dampness Abated	...	...	...	...	...	62
Doors Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	17
Eaves Gutters Repaired, Renewed or Provided	...	...	...	...	...	21
Fireplaces Repaired, Renewed or Provided	...	...	...	...	...	4
Floors Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	7
Roofs Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	24
Rainwater Pipes Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	6
Sinks Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sashcords Provided or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	12
Stairs Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Walls (External) Re-pointed or Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	14
Walls (Internal) Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	17
Windows Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	19
Water Supplies Provided or Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Yards and Passages Paved or Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
New Bathrooms Provided	...	...	...	...	...	13
New W.C.'s Provided	...	...	...	...	...	20
W.C. Compartments Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	12
W.C. Pedestals Provided	...	...	...	...	...	20
W.C. Cisterns Provided or Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	5

### **Section III—Inspection and Supervision of Food**

There has again been a slight increase in the number of food premises operating in the Borough, which has now reached 358. Time available for routine inspections of these premises has been strictly limited because of the increase during the year of other Departmental work. However, I am satisfied that generally good, and in many instances excellent, standards of hygiene have been achieved and maintained. There has been an almost complete absence of complaints from the shopping public, which reflects well on the proprietors and



managers in the industry. In October the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, came into force, replacing the earlier Regulations.

### Meat Inspection

There are no slaughterhouses within the Borough, all animals being slaughtered and carcasses inspected elsewhere prior to delivery and sale. The quality of home killed and imported meat available in the shops has been consistently good, with the result that the quantity condemned during the year has been very low. The types of vehicle in use to deliver bulk supplies to the shops are of proper design, and satisfactorily equipped for the purpose.

In accordance with the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food's direction, the Council reviewed the Borough's slaughtering requirements, and carried out the necessary enquiries with the trade and allied interests, the result of which was that the Council decided that the requirements would be adequately met without the provision of any slaughterhouses within the Borough.

The following quantities of meat were condemned as unfit:—

Meat (Home Killed)	...	591b.
Meat (Imported)	...	1cwt. 46lb.
Fish	... ..	9 stone 5lb.

### Condemned Foods

The quantity of tinned and packed foods condemned during the year is set out below. All such food was disposed of at the Council's tip, where it was dumped with the first refuse of the day at the bottom of the tip.

Cooked Meats	...	1091b.
Mixed Sweets	... ..	171b.
Macaroni	... ..	21b.
Meat, Milk, Fruit, Vegetables, Fish, etc.	...	1,555 (1,166) tins, jars and bottles

### Food Analysis

During the year ended 31st March, 1961, the Food and Drugs Authority (I.W. County Council) officials took samples

of the undermentioned foods, etc., and submitted them for analysis. Their report is as follows:—

<i>Article</i>	<i>Number taken</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory Composition</i>	<i>Label</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Blackcurrant Juice				
Syrup ... ..	1			
Bun with Dairy Cream	1			
Butter ... ..	3			
Chocolate Roll ...	4	2		Deficient in fat-free cocoa
Honey ... ..	1			
Ice-Cream ... ..	5			
Jam (Plum) ... ..	1	1		{ Deficient in soluble solids
Jam (Raspberry) ...	1	1		
Margarine ... ..	2			
Neuro-phosphates ...	1			
Raspberry Split ...	1			
Whole Grapefruit				
Drink ... ..	1			
Milk ... ..	19	1		Deficient in solids-non- fat
	—	—		
	41	5		

### Milk Supplies

The number of distributors registered is 29 (24), and all milk delivered is designated and bottled. Nearly all the pasteurised milk consumed locally is “flash” treated in the Newport district, the remainder being treated in a small “holder” plant operated by a local dairyman.

The following registrations and licences were operative during the year.

Registration as Distributor of Milk	...	...	29
Registration of Premises used as a Dairy	...	...	10
Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation “Tuberculin Tested”	...	...	16
Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation “Pasteurised”	...	...	28
Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation “Sterilised”	...	...	1

Supplementary Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested" ...	1
Supplementary Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation "Pasteurised" ... ..	1

In August the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food introduced the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, which will come into force on 1st January, 1961. These Regulations will transfer the duty of this Borough to issue milk dealers' licences to the Food & Drugs Authority, i.e. the I.W. County Council.

### **Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 16**

The premises registered under the above Act and Section are:—

Registered for the Manufacture of Sausages and/or Preserved Foods ... ..	29
Registered for the Manufacture, Storage/Sale of Ice-Cream ... ..	140
	<hr/>
	169
	<hr/>

### **Ice-Cream**

137 premises are now registered in the Borough for the storage and sale of ice-cream. This ever-increasingly popular commodity is included in the products of a wide range of food premises, the majority of which find it most convenient to sell ice-cream in its wrapped form. It is a fact, of course, that ice-cream has received, in the past, very special attention from the trade and the authorities, with the result that nowadays a highly pure, safe and nutritive food is available to the public.

The three small ice-cream manufacturing factories in Ryde are operated satisfactorily and maintained in accordance with Regulations appertaining to them.

### **Bakehouses**

There were 16 (16) bakehouses in operation, none of which is underground. 18 routine inspections of these premises have been carried out.

### Licensed Premises

The 63 licensed premises within the Borough have all been inspected during the year, and, except for minor repairs called for, they have been operated in accordance with standards required for food premises. Attention has again been focussed on the need at several of the older houses to modernise and, in some instances, re-site, the sanitary accommodation.

### Details of Inspections, Visits, etc.

Complaints ... ..	16
Interviews with Owners, Agents, Builders, etc. ...	142
Re-visits to Premises under Notice—Food and	
Drugs Act ... ..	27
Butchers' Shops ... ..	38
Fishmongers and Poulterers ... ..	15
Greengrocers ... ..	9
Grocers and Other Food Shops ... ..	35
Bakehouses ... ..	18
Fried Fish Shops ... ..	13
Dairies ... ..	16
Dairy Farms ... ..	9
Ice-Cream Premises ... ..	24
Restaurants and Kitchens ... ..	41
Food Stalls ... ..	3
Food Factories ... ..	28
Licensed Premises ... ..	67
Hotels ... ..	17
Food Enforcement ... ..	59
Infestations ... ..	4
Miscellaneous ... ..	8

### Number of Food Premises in which Contraventions Remedied:

Fishmongers and Poulterers ... ..	1
Greengrocers ... ..	1
Grocers and Other Food Shops ... ..	4
Fried Fish Shops ... ..	1
Restaurants and Kitchens ... ..	1
Licensed Premises ... ..	12

### Summary of Notices Served (Sections I, II and III)

Public Health Act (Informal) ... ..	101
Public Health Act (Formal) ... ..	5



Housing Act (Formal)	...	...	...	...	7
Factories Act (Mechanical Power)	...	...	...	...	1
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	1
Food and Drugs Act	...	...	...	...	21

### **Section IV—Miscellaneous**

Additional duties beyond those set out in the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935-51, carried out are as follows:—

#### **Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928**

During 1960-61, commencing 1st May, 1960, 35 premises were licensed for the storage of petroleum spirit. (Total gallonage: 40,400). In addition, 10 Petroleum Mixtures licences were issued. 92 visits were made to the petroleum establishments for the purpose of ascertaining that the Act and Regulations were being complied with and to supervise any repairs or improvements carried out.

#### **Shops Act—Closing Hours**

The Department is responsible for the compliance with “hours of closing” by shops within the Borough, as required by the Shops Act and several operative Closing Orders made by the Council.

#### **Hackney Carriages and Drivers**

The local byelaws governing hackney carriages licensed to ply for hire on the Council’s stands are administered by the Health Department, and this necessitated 64 inspections of the 35 licensed vehicles.

42 drivers for these vehicles are also licensed by the Council and subject to similar surveillance.

#### **Pet Animals Act, 1951**

Three premises have been licensed as pet shops, and these have been operated in accordance with their conditions of

licence. The Council required the proprietors to supply pamphlets with animals sold, advising on their care.

**Lectures, etc.**

During the year, Mr. Jordan has, as in recent years, continued to give lectures and demonstrations covering public health subjects to student nurses of the I.W. Hospital Board preparing for their qualifying examinations. These lectures are undoubtedly very comprehensive, and popular with the nurses, and are producing excellent results.





